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BOOK



OVER

A Monthly Review of
Irish Literature & Bibliography.

MAY.

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JAMES MONTGOMERY.

James Montgomery, "The Christian Poet," was the eldest son of John Montgomery, whose forebears had been settled in Co. Antrim since the Plantation, and Mary Blackley, his wife. They resided at Ballykennedy, in the parish of Ahoghill, where they were married in 1768. The poet's father attached himself to a colony of the United Brethren or Moravians, who had installed themselves in the adjacent townland of Ballymaguiggan and named it Grace Hill. John Montgomery was appointed a preacher by the Brethren, and in that capacity was sent on a visit to their Scottish settlement near Irvine, in Ayrshire, and here the poet happened to be born in 1771. When he was about two years old, his parents returned to their old home in Ahoghill, and the poet received the rudiments of his education from the village schoolmaster, Jemmy McCaffrey, and his father assisted in planting the trees that still flourish around Grace Hill. When the boy had reached the age of seven, his parents migrated to England, settling at Fulneck, near Leeds, and at the celebrated Moravian School there, he completed his education with a view to entering their ministry. But he was a dreamy boy, more given to studying the poets than the theologians, and his friends had to relinquish the idea. After four years of unsettled wandering, during which he had tried with some success a literary career in London, he settled in Sheffield, and founded there in 1794 "The Iris," which he ably conducted for over thirty years. His beginning was unpropitious, for in 1795, when little over 23 years old, he was fined £20 and thrown into York Castle for three months, for printing a seditious ballad for a pedlar, thus accentuating his Irish origin. The ballad was entitled "A Patriotic Song, By a Clergyman of Belfast," the verse which constituted the libel being:—

"Europe's fate on the contest's decision depends;
Most important its issue will be,
For should France be subdued, Europe's liberty ends,
If she triumphs, the world will be free."

The informer stated that he bought a straw from the hawker for a half-penny, and grumbling at the price was given the ballad. This recalls the old Irish law-evading custom, "I'll sell ye a straw and I'll give ye

a ballad. I dare neither sing it nor sell it." It was urged in defence that the song had already appeared in a collection—"Songs sung at the Commemoration of the Taking of the Bastille," printed at Belfast in 1793, and also in three local papers, but the plea was of no avail, and he was sentenced as stated. The song was really written by Thomas Stott, of Dromore, "Hafiz," and I reprinted the song-book in its entirety in the "Ulster Journal of Archæology," Vol. XV., p. 119. It may not be altogether without interest to state that it was during this imprisonment the poet wrote the lines to the Robin beginning "Little bird with bosom red, welcome to my humble shed," once so prominent in the national school books. In the following year Montgomery was fined £30 and imprisoned for six months for simply reporting a riot in Sheffield. But with the coming of peaceful times, Montgomery's worth as a poet and a man became better recognized, and for sixty-two years he was regarded as Sheffield's leading citizen, foremost in all good works for ameliorating the condition of the people. Lord Brougham consulted him on public questions, and Sir Robert Peel, when Premier, conferred a Civil List pension upon him. Withal he still had a warm corner in his heart for Ireland. Writing under date 10th June, 1829, he says, "John James (i.e., his nephew) will return to his native country though not to his native place, which lies a few miles distant, and is called in the language of Irishmen Ballymaguiggan, but in that of the brethren and sisters—Grace Hill." Speaking in Dublin on 15th October, 1842, he said: "I am myself at heart an Irishman, my earliest recollections and sympathies are connected with Ireland, and my parents are both Irish by birth." Montgomery proceeded to Belfast, and on the 25th of the same month was present at a public breakfast in the Donegall Arms. Dr. Hanna presided over a large company and William McComb read a "Poetic Welcome," reprinted in his "Works." Speaking afterwards of this visit, the veteran declared "They spoiled me by their kindness." Montgomery was a prolific writer. O'Donoghue in his "Poets of Ireland," enumerates some sixteen distinct volumes of verse, some of which ran through as many as ten editions, and some volumes of prose. Many of his poems and hymns such as "The Common Lot" and the grand "Hail, to the Lord's anointed" are included in the anthologies and hymnals, and are familiar to all readers. His complete works were published in 4 vols. in 1849, and in 1 vol. in 1860. I have the latter in my Library of Ulster Poets. It was published by Routledge and is beautifully illustrated by Birket Foster and Sir John Gilbert, with a steel engraving of the author as a young man. James Montgomery died, at his residence, The Mount, Sheffield, on 30th April, 1854, and the townspeople accorded his remains a public funeral. The town already possessed a marble bust of him, but his admirers proceeded to erect a full length statue in bronze by John Bell, at a cost of £1,000, in a prominent position; and in 1857, J. N. Mappin placed in the chancel of the parish church a stained glass window to his memory "the figures

being emblematical of the subjects more prominently dealt with in his poems and hymns." There is a badly written "Life" of the poet by his intimate friends, John Holland and James Everett, published by Longmans in seven volumes, but his Irish connection is not enlarged upon, so he is invariably included, like Moore, amongst the "British" poets, though, as I have shown, Ulster has a much stronger claim upon him. The mention of Moore reminds me that he wrote of Montgomery in his "Diary," "He writes all those imaginative (and, some of them, beautiful) things of his in one of the closest and dirtiest alleys in all dirty Sheffield." And also that he repeated daily these lines by Montgomery:

"The dead are like the stars by day,
Unseen by mortal eye,
But not extinct they hold their way
In glory through the sky."

I cannot close better than with another quotation from his poems:—

"We pass; the path that each man trod
Is dim, or will be dim, with weeds,
What fame is left for human deeds
In endless age? It rests with God."

I have much gratification in being able to present the accompanying copy of a rare and unique portrait of the poet to the readers of the I.B.L.

FRANCIS JOSEPH BIGGER.

Ardrigh, Belfast.

MR. GEORGE MOORE has written a new book, "Avowals," and though it is a spacious work dealing neither with muslin, women, scripture, nor dogs, is exquisitely papered, bound and printed, and costs two guineas; the public cannot buy it; it is not for sale; now and hereafter the author is a monk dwelling in the monastery of art. This attitude, he claims, has been forced upon him by a continuous persecution, which has at last driven him, even as the tormented Jew, into a Ghetto of letters, free from the public scrutiny. Some forty years ago the persecution began with his first book "Flowers of Passion," and it has never ceased. It raged over "Esther Waters," which to-day is a recognised classic; "A Mummer's Wife" is still forbidden, not because it is unchaste, but because it was refused by the libraries; recently it broke out again over "The Brook Kerith," and even about the use of the name "Lewis Seymour." Forty years of battle is a long span. The man who is interested in mankind finds himself beset by all manner of difficulties, of passion and prejudice on the part of buyers and sellers who cannot understand, and even resent a man not wishing to write for money.—English Review.

A SONG UNSUNG.*

If I could write, before God stills my tongue,
 The song my being aches to write of thee:
 I'd live to hear our sad love-story sung,
 And make all lovers weep for thee with me;
 For I would tell the world in that one song
 The love we knew—in our three brief-brief years—
 Which, blessed of God, was more than passion-strong,
 As was Sir Launcelot's love and Guenevere's.

If I could write, before God calls me Home,
 How tenderly we each the other loved—
 The story of our love would soon become
 A legend by which all hearts would be moved,
 And, pityingly, made fain to cry: "How pure
 And fragrant, in God's sight, the love of these
 Two passionate hearts, whose history will endure
 With that of Abelard and Heloise."

If I could write that song, ere Death gives me
 To feel your soft arms round my neck again,
 I'd labour day and night, unceasingly,
 To tell our love-life's joy, our parting's pain;
 For if to Petrarch, Tasso, and the grave
 Sad Dante loves were giv'n they deemed divine—
 To unknown me the fair Christ greater gave
 When He gave me thy love and gave thee mine.

But, ah! I cannot write, for, anguishedly,
 The bitter tears fall blistering the page.
 I held you in my arms and watched you die
 A month ago; my God, it seems an age!
 Write? Write? I cannot sleep; I cannot rest;
 (How changed from other Junes this glad June seems!)
 I can do nought but ache for your soft breast,
 And brood, apart, over our broken dreams.

June 8th, 1920.

PADRIC GREGORY.

*To my dear dead love, Madeline Josephine Crothers, who died on
 May 8th, 1920. Aged 25 years.

THE R.I.C. IN LITERATURE.

At the present time, when the doings, duties and dangers of the Royal Irish Constabulary are so much in the public mind, it may be of interest to consider shortly the place "the force" holds in literature. Several books have been written, dealing with the historical, the actual and the romantic aspects of the organisation, which, as they have never, to my knowledge, been dealt with before, either in these pages or others, may afford some instruction and amusement to the readers. Of course, I purposely avoid all purely professional and technical Manuals, Guides, Reports, Codes, etc., etc., as well as many articles that have from time to time appeared in the higher class periodicals. I have before me as I write, the following works which I deal with in chronological order.

1. The Irish Police Officer. Comprising The Identification and other tales, founded upon Remarkable Trials in Ireland. By Robert Curtis, County Inspector of the Irish Constabulary. London, 1861. 8vo., vii. + 216 pp. This is a collection of half-a-dozen very interesting sketches, all "originally compiled from memoranda in the author's private journal," and first appeared in the "Dublin University Magazine," under the editorship of Cheyne Brady. The tales "are all founded upon facts which occurred within my own personal knowledge, and for the accuracy of which I can vouch."

2. Recollections of an Irish Police Magistrate and other Reminiscences of the South of Ireland. By Henry Robert Addison (formerly of the 2nd Dragoon Guards), London, 1862. 8vo. pp. ix. + 304. In this collection of thirty-three tales and sketches the author has given real facts from the recollection of incidents that took place some thirty years or so before. They are chiefly incidents in the career of a noted police magistrate, Tom Vokes (d. 1852), for upwards of thirty years chief magistrate of police in Limerick and a terror to evil doers in Munster. They describe inter alia the famous Clare Election of 1829, and the murder of Ellen Hanley, on which Gerald Griffin founded his great novel, "The Collegians." The author tells us that he started "The Limerick Chronicle," "which by-the-bye, was edited by that very clever member of the Church, who lost his high position in consequence of running away with Mrs. P.C.," but I fancy his memory must have played him false, for we know that journal was founded as far back as 1766. Addison was a frequent contributor to the "Dub. Univ. Mag.," and I think that a portrait and memoir of him appeared therein. I once, many years ago, met his son "Handsome Jack" Addison, K.C., and M.P., whilst defending a prisoner at the Old Bailey, for manslaughter, in which I gave evidence for the defence.

3. The History of the Royal Irish Constabulary. By Robert Curtis, County Inspector, R.I.C., Dublin, 1869. 8vo., pp. xiv. + 195. An interesting history of the force, showing its evolution from the old "Barneys" or baronial constables, to its present formation, which is

due to Thomas Drummond as detailed in the "Lives" of him by J. F. McLennan and Barry O'Brien. The book gives graphic descriptions of Ballingarry and the Rising of 1867.

4. *Gleanings and Reminiscences of Frank Thorpe Porter, A.M., J.P., B.L.*, and for upwards of twenty years a magistrate of the Head Office of Dublin Police, Dublin, 1875. 8vo. pp. xii. + 500. I merely include this work because a later edition was issued with the title of "Recollections of An Irish Police Magistrate," but he had no connection with the R.I.C.

5. *Irish Life and Character: Being a Collection of Tales, All Positive Facts.* By an Ex-Officer of R.I.C. London, N.D. (C. 1880) pp.175. The preface to this anonymous volume tells us that it is a second edition, and that many of the stories originally appeared in "Dub. Univ. Mag." for October, 1876, and are all founded on facts which came under his own immediate observation. The title page as quoted might be easily confused with the similarly named works of Mrs. S. C. Hall and Michael MacDonagh. As the half- and running-titles show, the first edition was named "Leaves from my Note-Book" and as such is included in "Ireland in Fiction." The author, judging by internal evidence, was a native of Ballinakill, Queen's County, and educated at Kilkenny College. He tells us he witnessed the arrival of Sir Walter Scott in the Marble City and remembered the famous plays at the Private Theatre there, but little or nothing about the R.I.C.

5. *Mervyn Grey, or Life in the R.I.C.*, Glasgow. 8vo. (c. 1875) is a pleasant little work of fiction from the pen of J. W. Montgomery, a well-known Ulster writer and father of Mrs. A. A. Needham, the well-known composer. It is the result of close and long observation.

7. *Tales of the R.I.C.* By Michael Brophy, Ex-Sergeant, Vol. 1, Dublin, 1896. 8vo., pp. xx. + 192. The author tells us that a first edition had appeared eight years previously, but I can find no trace of it or a second volume. It is dedicated to Ex-Sergt. Sir Thomas Echlin, Bart., "by his one-time companion in arms." The principal tale "The Lord of Kilrush" concerns the matrimonial adventures of a sub-inspector and a sub-constable, the latter of whom purchased in the Encumbered Estates Court the one-time estate of Lord Edward Fitzgerald, a fact, we are assured. The chief interest lies in the second paper entitled "Episodes of '48," which contains much carefully-garnered information not elsewhere obtainable regarding the day of Farranrory, as the author chooses to call the Ballingarry engagement, and of the eccentric Tom Trant, the sub-inspector who held the widow McCormick's house against Smith O'Brien.

8. *In the Royal Irish Constabulary.* By G. Garrow Green, portrait. London n.d. (c. 1904). 8vo. pp. 259. A series of interesting sketches, which in the author's opinion, "possess but one solitary merit, which is that they are true." The author devotes some space to an account of the training of the cadets, but for the most part the episodes are of a humorous nature, very well told.

9. *Sketches and Stories of the Royal Irish Constabulary*, by C. W. Leatham, Late Commissioner, R.I.C., Dublin, 1909. 8vo., pp. 21. The earlier part of this slight brochure is devoted to historical and statistical information, but the author winds up with a few good stories.

In conclusion I may add that the Newtownsteuart tragedy, which shocked the world in 1871, the carefully designed and brutal murder of a young bank clerk by Sub-Inspector Montgomery, gave rise to many publications in prose and verse, and Katherine Tynan and Miss C. J. Hamilton made it the central episode in two of their works.

POEMS, PLAYS AND PROSE.

Four of the neat little Talbot Press Booklets, one shilling each, demand attention. Mrs. Claude Chavasse (Moireen Fox) in her rendering of the legend of "Midhir and Etain" exhibits a skilful mastery of blank verse, displays a gift of strong characterization, and well preserves the old heroic spirit. But we think she shows to greater advantage in the admirable little playlet, "The Fire Bringers," the scene of which is a lonely little dun in the Glens of Antrim, in the time of Conor MacNessa, to which the two well contrasted couples bring the fire of love. "Songs and Satires," by Aodh de Blacam, contains clever verses in English and Gaelic, with some excellent fooling in the "Personal Parodies." "A Ballad of the Red Hand" stirs the blood like a trumpet, and there is an excellent rendering into Gaelic of Mrs. Shorter's song, "Kitty's Toys," by the author's wife. Peadar Mac Tomais in "Songs of the Island Queen" seems to us at his best in his ballads such as "Meehaul Dhu" and "The Dying Patriot," the latter of which has been frequently attributed to P. H. Pearse. "Land of my Dreams" is both musical and pathetic, and "The Song of the Milesians" is somewhat reminiscent of Moore's melody on the same subject.

To few men is it given to shine at once in the arts of poetry, philosophy and politics. Yet we have here three volumes from three different publishers, dealing with these varied subjects, and all proceeding from the fertile brain and busy pen of Mr. Herbert M. Pim. We have already adjudged Mr. Pim's claim to rank as a poet in our notice of his first volume of verse, which, we read ran out of print in a couple of months. His new volume, "Songs From an Ulster Valley" (Grant Richards, 3s. 6d.) contains some from his former book and many new ones, which will further enhance his poetic reputation. His pamphlet "Sinn Fein" (Carswell, 1s. 3d.) is an elaboration of the interesting article from his pen which appeared in the "Nineteenth Century" a year or so ago, and to which we drew attention at the time. It is well worthy a renewed perusal. His "Short History of Celtic Philosophy" (Tempest, Dundalk, 7s. 6d.), the first work of the kind to be published, may be said to have originated in his story, "The Pessimist." It exhibits a wide reading, an analytic habit of mind, and

is brimful of interesting information on an abstruse subject. He traces his theme from the time of the Druids, who developed two of Plato's doctrines independently and without any knowledge of Plato, through the ancient Irish schoolmen, Duns Scotus and Scotus Erigena, to Berkley, the Kilkenny man, and Hutcheson the Co. Down man and father of the Scottish school of philosophy. It is a work that requires, and deserves careful study, and to assist in this Professor Eoin MacNeill has contributed many learned and interesting notes. We observe with pleasure that Mr. Pim is preparing a volume of "Reminiscences," for which we prophesy a host of interested readers.

Mr. F. J. Bigger must have gone to a lot of trouble to muster the details he has so accurately arranged in "The Two Abernethys" (Sweeney, Belfast, 100 copies printed) one of whom was the highly esteemed "new light" divine of Dublin, the other his grandson, the famous London surgeon. The foibles of both men, and they had many, are intimately touched off, and the author makes old Dublin and its social customs live again in his pleasant pages.

Mr. Erskine Childers has reprinted his articles from the "Daily News" on "Military Rule in Ireland" (Talbot Press, 6d.) with notes and illustrations. Its scope is indicated by its title, and its reading fills one with sorrow and indignation, as does also a pamphlet entitled "The Rathfriland Conspiracy of 1820," by Joseph Connellan, reprinted from the "Frontier Sentinel." They show how little we have advanced in a century towards that peace and brotherhood, which alone, under God, can bring happiness and progress, spiritual and material, to our distracted country.

SOME IRISH MEN OF LETTERS.

MR. JOSEPH McCABE has had a singularly wide and cosmopolitan experience of life. Born in 1867, he was educated by Franciscan monks, and in 1883 he entered the Order of St. Francis. He was ordained priest in 1890. His first year of study was at Killarney, his last at the University of Louvain, where Cardinal (then Mgr.) Mercier was his teacher in philosophy and a warm personal friend. He also studied Hebrew and Syriac at Louvain. In 1890 he became professor of Scholastic Philosophy at St. Antony's College, Forest Gate, and in 1895 he was made Principal of St. Bonaventure's College, Buckingham. In the following year he resigned, and closed his career as a priest. For some time he was a private secretary—on the Riviera—and a journalist. Having settled down to writing books and giving lectures on history, evolution, and social questions, he is the author of about forty volumes, and has translated about twenty from French, German, Spanish, and Italian. He has lectured in all sorts of places, from women's clubs in small towns of Connecticut to miners' shanties in tiny villages on the east coast of New Zealand, on the deck of steamers in the tropics, and on the plinth of the Nelson Monument. Last year he delivered several

lectures in Columbia University, New York, and as far west as Chicago. He has made two lecturing tours in Australia and New Zealand, and has visited South Africa, Holland, Belgium, France, Germany, Switzerland, and Italy. He is fond of variety and has encountered all sorts and conditions of men, and he works seven days a week. M.A.B.

DR. O'BRIEN is to be congratulated on having entered (in his "Economic History of Ireland in the 17th Century") on an almost unworked field in the tangled extent of Irish history. Since the great school of Irish historians died out in the early nineteenth century with Betham, Monck-Mason, and Lascelles, whose spirit lived on in Gilbert, we have had nothing approaching the modern standard of work, save monographs by specialists like Dr. Sigerson and Litton-Falkiner, and the political histories of Bagwell and Mr. Wilson, most publications on the subject being frankly controversial pamphlets. Dr. O'Brien's book is so good that it ought to have been better. The Council Books of Ireland being destroyed we can learn the history of its government from only two sources: what it was thinking about from the Domestic State Papers, what it did from its Proclamations. Of the latter source he has made little use. It is rather disheartening, when one has spent several years of one's life, and the late Lord Crawford several thousand pounds, in making these documents available to students of the Tudor and Stuart periods, to find a historian of Dr. O'Brien's calibre with the book under his hand making no use of it. If he had run through its pages he would have been saved from quoting proclamations that never existed, giving wrong dates for others, and misrepresenting the effect of still others.—Robert Steele in *The Athenæum*.

PRINTING IN CARLOW, 1853—1900.

- 1853. Freedom of Election in Ireland, or Violence and Intimidation illustrated, on a Trial before The Lord Chief Justice at the Carlow Assizes on the 16th day of March. 8vo. v. + 16 pp. ("Sentinel" and County Printing Office.) (Brit. Mus.)
- 1853, October 15th, to May 11th, 1878. The Carlow Post. No. 1, etc. Continued as "Carlow Independent." (Brit. Mus. /N.)
- 1853. First Annual Report of the Carlow Mechanic's Institute, with the Rules and Regulations and a Catalogue of the Books. ("Sentinel" and County Printing Office.) 12mo., 40pp. (E. R. McC. Dix.)
- 1855. Death of Dr. Doyle, R. Catholic Bishop of Kildare and Leighlin, Revd. Robt. Fishbourne. ("Sentinel" and County Printing Office.) 8vo., 8pp. (Revd. R. S. Maffett.)
- 1857. County of Carlow: Abstract of Presentments Granted at a General Assizes, etc., at Carlow, etc., on . . . 16th March. (Ibid.) 8vo., 104pp. and cover. (E. R. McC. Dix.)
- 1858, March 27th, to October 24th, 1863.—The Carlow Weekly News. No. 141, etc. (Brit. Mus. /N.)

1859. Carlow Agricultural Society, etc. Rules, etc. Subscribers, etc., etc. ("Sentinel" and County Printing Office.) 8vo., 30pp. (R.I.A. /H.P.—Vol. 2208/12.)
1859. Pastoral Address of the Suffragan Bishops of the Province of Dublin to the Catholic Clergy and Laity, etc. (T. Price, Dublin Street, "Carlow Post.") 8vo. 16 pp. (R.I.A. /T.—Box 543/50.)
- 1862, March 8th and April 12th. The Carlow Post. Vol. IX. Nos. 21 and 26. Saturdays. (Thomas Price.) 4pp. of 6 cols. each. (E. R. McC. Dix.)
- 1869-70. The Carlow College Magazine. ("Carlow Post" and General Printing Office.) 8vo. Vol. 1. Nos. 8—12. (Brit. Mus. Periodicals; E. R. McC. Dix.)
- Note.—The earlier numbers were printed in Dublin.
1870. The Principles and Scope of Mr. Gladstone's Irish Land Bill. (Chief Secretary's Library, Dublin Castle.)
1870. The Drainage Act. Report of a meeting. ("Sentinel" and County Printing Office.) 8vo. 28pp. (Nat. Liby.—Joly.)
1870. Carlow Vestries in the Olden Time. (Robt. Malcolmson.) (Ibid.) 8vo., 44 pp. (Jas. Buckley.)
1870. "The Yellow Lion" Revived. A Reminiscence of old Carlow Inns and Hostelries. (Robert Malcolmson.) (Ibid.) 8vo. 24pp. James Buckley.)
1872. Statuta Diocesana per Provinciam Dubl., etc. A New Edition. (Louisa Price.) 8vo. 110pp. (Revd. R. S. Maffett.)
1874. Colonel Kane Bunbury. An Obituary Memoir (Robert Malcolmson.) ("Sentinel" Office.) 12mo. 12pp. (James Buckley.)
1874. Sir Garnet Wolseley's Ancestry, etc. (Robert Malcolmson.) (Ibid.) 12mo. 42pp. (James Buckley.)
1878. 18th May. The Carlow Independent. (Sells Dict. of World's Press, 1888.)
1879. The Bride Roodesii: or Persia's Peerless Rose. An Eastern Poem. E. Dalton Doyle. (P. Kelly, Brown Street.) 8vo., vi. and 5—47pp. (E. R. McC. Dix.)
- 1879, June 28th, to June 24th, 1882. The Carlow Independent. Vol. II. No. 4, etc. (Brit. Mus. /N.)
- 1882, 7th January, etc. The Carlow Independent. Vol. IV., No. 32. Fol., 4pp. of 6 cols. (Patrick Kelly, 4 Dublin Street.) (Brit. Mus. /N.)
- 1883, Sept. 22nd, to July, 1885. The Carlow Nationalist. No. 1, etc. Saturday, fol., 4pp., 7 cols., 1½d. Printed and Published at Burrin Street, Carlow, for the proprietor, P. J. Conlan. (Brit. Mus. /N.)
- 1885, August 1st, to 1900. Continued as The Nationalist and Leinster Times. (P. J. Conlan.) (Brit. Mus. /N.)
1888. The Winding Banks of Barrow: or The Carlow Emigrant's last adieu. (Broadside Ballad.) M.(ichael) B.(rophy). (P. Kelly.) (E. R. McC. Dix.)

1888. Carlow, Past and Present. Michael Brophy. ("Nationalist and Leinster Times" Office.) 8vo., 4 leaves and 138 pp. and 3 leaves and paper cover. (E. R. McC Dix.)

Note.—Includes a Directory.

1892. Report of Diocesan Council, &c. 8vo., xvi + 30 pp. and wrapper. ("Sentinel" Office.) (J. S. Crone.)

1892, January 2nd, to December 17th. The Carlow Vindicator. No. 48, etc. (Weekly.) (Brit. Mus. /N.) E. R. McC. DIX.

EDITOR'S GOSSIP.

Since the last number appeared, I have spent an enjoyable holiday in Dublin, renewing old acquaintances, and forming new friendships, with the men and women of letters in that dear, delightful city. My first call was on Dr. Sigerson, the grand old doyen of Irish literature, hale and hearty as ever. Age cannot wither his wonderful memory of men and events, recent or long ago. He told me in reference to a query in these pages (Vol. II. pp. 65, 86), that the story of "The Black Doctor" was written by a young man named Sullivan, who, having been a medical student, was commonly known amongst his associates as "the doctor." His brother, Frank Sullivan, was for long a member of the "Freeman's Journal" reporting staff.

Dr. Sigerson showed me a beautiful death mask of his old friend and fellow worker, Charles Kickham, which has recently come into his possession; and Mr. Henry Dixon, of Phibsboro (a helper, good at need), showed me the death mask of Fintan Lalor, of which I had no previous knowledge. Neither of these have ever been reproduced.

"A.E." was away sketching in Donegal, and his able lieutenant, Miss Susan Mitchell was busily engaged when I called at Plunkett House, in correcting the proofs of a new volume of Fairy Tales from the pen of her friend, Miss K. F. Purdon, who I regretted to hear, is at present in indifferent health. The walls of her work-room are beautifully decorated with characteristic allegorical paintings from the facile brush of "A.E." James Stephens, bubbling over with enthusiastic optimism, told me he was engaged on "a reincarnation" of "The Tain," on the lines of his last volume of verse, and had completed two books of it. He had just made his debut as a playwright at the Abbey Theatre, in a tragic little sketch "The Wooing of Julia Elizabeth," which was well received. Joseph Campbell has, for the nonce, forsaken the muses, to the great disappointment of readers of "The Nation," and, as acting chairman of the Wicklow County Council, vice Captain Barton, in prison, is devoting his attention to public affairs; whilst P. S. O'Hegarty is busy on the concluding volume of his "Indestructible Nation." E. A. Boyd has left Ireland to resume his consular duties in U.S.A., his place as Dublin correspondent of "The Athenæum" being taken by Warre B. Wells, late editor of "The Irish Statesman," and Miss Nellie O'Brien is still busily engaged run-

ning "The Gaelic Churchman," and other good works. Robert Lynd is acting as special correspondent of the "Daily News" in Conacht, and contributing a valuable series of articles to its columns, enlightening the stolid Saxon on the doings of the men of the West; and W. J. Lawrence, nothing the worse for his American trip, still places his unrivalled knowledge of the Elizabethan dramatists before the readers of the "Times Literary Supplement" and "Musical Opinion" of Boston, U.S.A.

I was told Thomas Kiersey has retired from the publishing business through ill-health, so "The Irish Commonwealth" has ceased to appear. On the other hand, the firm of Martin Lester, Ltd., of which Bulmer Hobson is the guiding spirit, is going strong in their new premises in Harcourt Street. I paid a pleasant, though brief visit to the wonderful Joly collection, now nicely arranged in the National Library. I understand that Mr. T. W. Lyster retires shortly, under the age-limit, from the headship of this institution, with which he has been so honorably connected for over forty years, and for which he has done so much, in spite of many handicaps. His annual reports make excellent reading, and enshrine much valuable bibliographical lore, to which I shall treat my readers as occasion arises, he having kindly presented me with a set.

What used to be the concert chamber in the University buildings in Earlsfort Terrace is being demolished, and a fine new library is to be erected on the site. This will give J. J. O'Neill, the librarian, an opportunity of amalgamating under a single roof the three libraries at present scattered throughout the buildings, viz.: those of Cardinal Newman's Catholic University, the old Royal University, and the present National University. Wherever I went I heard nothing but regret expressed at the death of "The Irish Statesman," the admirable weekly review founded by Sir Horace Plunkett, after a career of only one year. Its loss to Irish letters and affairs is great, for it numbered amongst its contributors every Anglo-Irish writer of distinction, and introduced not a few young writers of promise. Sir Horace has done many things to benefit his country, and its establishment and sustenance was not one of the least. "It is not mortal to command success." The enormous rise in the cost of production was the primary cause of its regretted decease, and I fear the same cause is having a detrimental effect on the printing business in Ireland. I noticed that two important provincial establishments, one in Strabane, the other in Portadown, were advertized for what looked like a break-up sale.

In an interesting article on "The Storm of Drogheda in 1694" in the "Irish Ecclesiastical Record" for May, Mr. J. B. Williams makes excellent use of a unique tract, now in the possession of Prof. C. H. Firth, of Oxford. It is a small quarto of 12 pages, without date or title-page, page 1 having the title heading "A Letter of Dr. Bernard's to a Friend at Court," pp. 2—8. A Brief Relation of Dr. Bernard's Suf-

ferings for His Majesty; pp. 9—12. A Brief Relation of that Bloody Storm at Drogheda. It was evidently printed about the end of 1660 or beginning of 1661, and was called out in reply to "A Mixt Poem" (1660), by John Crouch (who Mr. Williams thinks "must have been an Irishman") in which it was hinted that Dr. Bernard had been a bit of a "trimmer" at Tredagh. The same number contains a destructive criticism of Mr. W. C. Trimble's "History of Enniskillen," from the pen of Rev. Paul Walsh, of Maynooth.

"An Irishwoman" contributes a thrilling little sketch to "Blackwood" entitled "The Terror by Night," and Ella MacMahon, continuing her "Vignettes," delineates "Flynn" with much humour. In the "London Mercury" John Freeman indites an illuminating appreciation of George Moore, and J. M. Hone contributes "A Letter from Ireland," in which he reminds us that "Twenty years ago, at the dawn of the Sinn Fein Movement, there were several very clever weeklies in Dublin, notably Mr. Arthur Griffith's "United Irishman," in which was published some of the early work of James Joyce, James Stephens and other writers who afterwards became known in the great world. The "United Irishman" also served as a platform for the discussion of the general principles of the Irish Literary movement, then, too, at its beginnings. Mr. Griffith's interest in literature turned out, however, to be of a limited patriotic sort, he affirmed during the controversy over Synge's plays his purely propagandist standard of values, and presently the poets lost sight of him, or he lost sight of the poets."

Mr. Swift MacNeill deals interestingly with "The Irish Secretaryship" in the July "Fortnightly," and shows how half-a-dozen holders of that office eventually reached the Premiership. In the "English," Col. Arthur Lynch discusses "Ireland and the Empire," and ventures on a solution—Dominion Home Rule, which he was the first to propose, and urged upon the late John Redmond in a public letter. Writing on the death of Rhoda Broughton, in "The Bookman," Mr. S. M. Ellis tells us that, "Her mother was Irish, a member of the Bennett family of The Grange, Birr, and daughter of George Bennett, K.C., of 18 (now renumbered 70), Merrion Square, Dublin. As a girl she often stayed with Sheridan Lefanu, her uncle by marriage, who encouraged her to write her first stories, and as they progressed, she would read them aloud in the evenings passed in Merrion Square, to him and a few favoured guests."

The Irish Literary Society celebrated the centenary of the death of Henry Grattan on 5th June, by a visit to his grave in the Statesmen's Aisle in Westminster Abbey. On the following evening, a dinner at which sixty members and friends sat down was held at the Hotel de l'Etrangers in Soho, once the residence of Edmund Burke, and where, it is believed, Grattan visited him. The President occupied the chair, and the guest of the evening, Mr. Richard Ashe King, delivered a brilliant oration on the Life and Work of Grattan, which enthralled his audience and was rapturously received.

Here is another pseudonym, and a rather happy one, which may be useful to the future compiler of a "Dictionary of Irish Pseudonyms" which poor D. J. O'Donoghue contemplated and long collected material for. "A Garden of Peace" issued some time ago by Messrs. Collins bore on its title page the name of "F. Littlemore," which now turns out to be a pen name of Mr. Frankfort Moore, one of our most prolific writers, whose output now numbers something like eighty volumes in prose and verse. And here is a bibliographical item that has hitherto escaped my notice. I take it from a catalogue issued by Frank Hollings, Great Turnstile, London, W.C.2.

"Yeats (W. B.) Eight Poems. January, 1916. First edition, Large Paper, with remarkable frontispiece silhouette of a nude figure in red. Script text. Printed in red and black, with Colophon in red, on Dutch hand-made paper (only 8 copies so done), sm. fo., stitched in stiff yellow-paper wrappers, uncut, as issued, and with Errata list on inside of back cover, unique copy. £6 6s." A rare and interesting copy bearing the autograph of the poet and dated by him August 17, 1916. The eight poems are entitled "The Dawn," "On Woman," "The Fisherman," "The Thorn Tree," "The Phoenix," "The Hawk," "Memory," and "There is a Queen in China."

America still holds the record for prices of rare books. At a recent auction in New York the following prices were realized: O. Goldsmith, "Threnodia Augustalis: Sacred to the Memory of H.R.H. the Princess Dowager of Wales," 1772, Horace Walpole's copy, \$2,000 (£400); and "Vicar of Wakefield," 1766, a fine copy of the earliest issue, \$830 (£166); E. FitzGerald, "Rubáiyat, of Omar Khayyám," 1859, first edition, with the original wrappers, \$730 (£146), the latter identical with the copy that was once picked up out of Quaritch's four-penny box. High prices are also being paid for Oscar Wilde MSS. At a recent sale at the Anderson Galleries, New York, \$7,900 (more than £1,500) were paid for a collection of twenty-five letters to Lord Alfred Douglas. The total of the sale (423 lots) was \$46,800, over £10,000 at the present rate of exchange.

NOTICES OF NEW BOOKS.

THE STATISTICAL AND SOCIAL INQUIRY SOCIETY OF IRELAND.—Historical Memoirs with Portraits. By S. Shannon Millen, B.A. (Ponsonby). This very interesting compilation by the honorary librarian was originally intended as an index to the publications of the Society, now in its 73rd year. It has been extended into a useful work of reference, filled with biographical and bibliographical information, and adorned with a dozen or so well-reproduced portraits of distinguished members. The plan adopted is a capital one. We first get a list of the papers read at the meetings, then of the pamphlets published, and finally a reprint of the "Contents" of the 97 parts of the

"Journal" published down to October, 1919. To this is added an Author-Index with biographical data (which in some cases could have been easily added to) and a well classified subject-Index, the whole forming an excellent addition to our Irish works of reference.

EVENING MEMORIES. By William O'Brien (Maunsel, 16s.) How the reading of these graphic, and at times thrilling, pages recalls old, unhappy, far-off things and battles long ago! From 1883, when he first entered Parliament as Member for his native town, until 1890, the period covered by this volume, Wm. O'Brien was a first-rate fighting man, and the leader of many a political forlorn hope. The whole story is here disclosed, written in the vigorous English of which he is master. We have the exposure by "United Ireland" of the Cornwall-French abomination; the tragedy of Mitchelstown, New Tipperary, the "breeches" episode, the mystery of which is revealed for the first time, the long, long duel with Arthur Balfour, and the fierce fights with his gaolers against being treated as a common criminal. One wonders how a man of his weak physique stood the strain, and still cheerfully returned to the conflict. We have many intimate personal touches regarding Parnell who "towered amongst his marshals an undisputed and beloved First Consul," and at one time would have yielded his leadership to the author. Of other public men, Archbishop Croke seems to have been his dearest friend and closest confidant, as many of his letters show, and next to him Bishop Duggan of Clonfert. When seated around the latter's hospitable board a Papal letter arrived condemning the Plan of Campaign. "Well, my lord," said one of the guests, "I daresay it is time for us outlaws to clear out of the house." The bishop turned to his manservant, "Mike," he said with great solemnity, "kill another pig." "It was one of the great answers of history," comments Mr. O'Brien. The author tells us how his "great happiness" came to him quite by accident, and gleefully notes that the much decried "boycott" is the principal weapon in the armoury of the League of Nations. There are a few slips in the narrative, for one of which "Perudel," instead of Pendjeh, the "reader" is to blame. But there never was a "Sir Bartlett Burdett-Coutts," Mr. O'Brien is confusing two brothers, and George Erington received a baronetcy, not mere knighthood, for his services at the Vatican. It is a great book, which will take its place as a standard work on the history of the times it deals with and it is satisfactory to know that its continuation is on the stocks.

THE COLLAR OF GOLD, and other Fantasies. By Bryan Cooper. (Allan, 5s.). Capt. Cooper, who acted as press censor for a time in Dublin, possesses a pretty wit, for, perhaps by way of reparation, he dedicates this collection of clever little playlets to "The Irish Press," which so often squirmed over his actions. Measuring men and manners of former times by present-day standards affords him many openings for his keen satire, and several historical incidents are deftly and

humourously handled. To our thinking the two best are the title-piece depicting the quarrel of a couple of Irish chieftains over their battle spoils, and "The Chief Secretary," a supposititious, but not unlikely incident in the career of the Victor of Waterloo when holding the important office. But indeed all are whimsically clever and will raise many a smile.

THE GAEL. By Edward E. Lysaght. (Maunsell, 6s. 6d.) We have read this excellent novel, or rather should one not call it "human document"? with unalloyed pleasure. Mr. Lysaght writes from the heart, with a full knowledge of his fellow countrymen and women, whose failings he does not hesitate to point out, whilst fully appreciating their good qualities. One feels whilst reading it that the author has put a large part of himself into the book. As a practical farmer he has borne the trials of a farmer's life and shared his triumphs in the golden harvests. And he makes his readers feel with him his joys and disappointments. His numerous characters are ably drawn, true to type, humorous or tragic, his women folk delightful, and we cannot show our appreciation better than by asking Mr. Lysaght for "another of the same."

DUBLIN BOOK AUCTIONS.

The valuable library of the late Most Rev. Dr. Donnelly, Bishop of Canea, was disposed of by Messrs. Lawlor and Briscoe, on 9th June, and we are indebted to Mr. W. G. Neale for the following particulars of it. The catalogue enumerated 571 items, which may be roughly divided as follows. About 800 vols. were works relating to Ireland, and about 1800 were theological, philosophical or of general literary interest. Of the former, some of the prices realized were as follows: Moran's *Spicilegium Ossoriense*, 3 vols., 42s.; Dublin Penny Journal, 4 vols., 34s.; Lewis's *Topographical Dictionary*, 3 vols., 24s.; Sadler's *Georgian Mansions*, 24s.; Bagwell's *Ireland Under the Tudors and Stuarts*, 5 vols., £4 12s.; Todd's *St. Patrick*, 20s.; Life of St. Patricke (St. Omers, 1625), £3 12s.; Hardiman's *Irish Minstrelsy*, 30s.; Reeves' *Down and Connor*, £2 4s.; Haliday's *Scandinavian Kingdom*, 2nd ed., 34s.; Prendergast's *Cromwellian Settlement*, 2nd ed., £2 8s.; Blacker's *Donnybrook*, 24s.; Carrigan's *Ossory*, 4 vols., 42s.; Comerford's *Kildare and Leighlin*, 3 vols., 26s.; Story's *Impartial History*, 30s.; *Monasticum Hibernicum*, 1722, 28s.; List of Claims entered at Chichester House, £15; Peter Walshe's *Irish Remonstrance*, £5; O'Curry's *MSS. Materials*, 32s.; O'Connor's *Rerum Hibernicarum*, 4 vols., £18; Carte's *Life of Ormonde*, 3 vols., 30s.; Madden's *United Irishmen*, 7 vols., £3 5s.; Ware's *Whole Works*, 2 vols., £2 15s.; F. E. Ball's *County Dublin*, 5 vols., 32s.; *Irish Ecclesiastical Record*, complete, £8; O'Daly's *Familiæ Geraldinorum*, 1665, £5 5s.; Warburton's *History of Dublin*, 2 vols., 22s.

The library of the late Rev. Dr. Walter MacDonald, librarian of Maynooth, was sold by the same firm on 24th June. It contained over

1,700 vols., mainly historical, philosophical and theological, in several languages, and the English classics. The Irish items catalogued were Duffy's *Hibernian Magazine*, Shearman's *Loco Patriciana*, Healy's *Ancient Schools and Scholars*, Meehan's *Flight of the Earls*, Ferguson's *Congal and Lays*, Joyce's *Blaid and Deirdre*, MacDonagh's *Viceroy's Post Bag*, The *Earls of Kildare*, O'Hanlon's *Life of St. Malachy*, Curran's *Speeches*, Plowden's *History*, O'Rourke's *Ballysodare*, Davitt's *Prison Diary*, Cahill's *Speeches*, Lecky's *Leaders* (1871), Duffy's *North and South*, Mitchel's *History*, O'Byrne's *Queen's County*, *New Irish Library* (11 vols), Hanlon's *Lines of the Saints* (8 vols.), and *Irish Ecclesiastical Record* (39 vols).

POSTBAG.

VOLUNTEER SERMON.—I have recently obtained a pamphlet which I think is worthy of record in your pages, for several reasons. It is entitled "A Sermon preached at Lisnavein, otherwise Ballybay New Erection, on Saturday, June 10th, 1780, to the Lisnavein Independent Rangers, Trough Volunteers, Lisluney Volunteers and Monaghan Rangers. Published at the Desire of the Lisnavein Independent Rangers, by John Rogers, M.A., Edinburgh, 1780." Dedicated to Chas. Powell Leslie, Colonel. It is not included in the author's works as given in Witherow's "Historical and Literary Memorials," 1880. It contains an advertisement of a resolution of thanks to the preacher from the Monaghan Brigade, reprinted from "The Ulster Journal" of June 20th, 1780, which does not appear in Wilson's "Compleat Collection of the Resolutions of the Volunteers," 1782, and is the earliest known reference to that periodical. We learn from the sermon that the standard of the Trough Volunteers and Lisnavein Rangers was a Roman eagle and their motto "Pro aris et focus," and that of the Monaghan Brigade, "Ne quid detrimenti,"—interesting addenda to McNevin's "History of the Volunteers." Witherow tells us the author took part in the great Dungannon Convention of 1782, and was one of the two delegates who voted against the removal of the Catholic disabilities, which one can readily believe after a perusal of the sermon, which is anti-Catholic in tone, and not at all in keeping with the liberal and enlightened policy of the Volunteers of '82.

Chelsea.

STOUPPE McCANCE.

(Though not included in the body of Witherow's work it is mentioned in the Preface,—Ed.)

QUERIES AND REPLIES.

AUTHOR WANTED (Vol. XI., p. 104). As to the authorship of the Historical Introduction to the first series of Madden's "United Irishmen" (1842). The latest edition of Madden's work, edited by Mr. Vincent Fleming O'Reilly, Librarian of the American-Irish Historical Society, contains the introduction as given in the first edition, with

the following note: "The preceding historical sketch, written for this work by the late Dr. W. C. Taylor, leaves it only necessary for the author to enter more fully than Dr. Taylor has done into the origin and progress of those agrarian conspiracies-associations of the peasantry for various objects, having relation to tithes, rents and enclosure of commons, which existed throughout the country for a period of about thirty years before the establishment of the first Society of United Irishmen." The edition containing this note was published by the Tandy Publishing Company of New York in 1910.

Archbald, Pa., U.S.A.

P. H. PHILBIN.

THO. BROWNE, 1734. "Lilly's Rules Construed; Wherunto are Added Thomas Robinson's Heteroclites, the Latin Syntaxis and Qui Mihi. Also there are Added, The Rules for the Gender of Nouns and Preter-perfect Tenses, and Supines of Verbs, in English alone." Dublin: Printed for Tho. Browne, at the 3 Candle-Sticks in High Street, 1734. 94pp. 5¼ in. × 3¾ in. This is an interesting old school book by William Hayne. Is anything known of T. Browne or his sign?

Limavady.

E.M.F.G.B.

SOUTHEY AND EMMET (Vol. XI., p. 118). The poem appears in the "Poetical Works of Robert Southey," published by Little, Brown and Co., of Boston, U.S.A., Volume 2, page 239. The poem is reprinted in the late Dr. Thomas Addis Emmet's comprehensive memoirs of Thomas Addis and Robert Emmet, together with a laudatory and sympathetic reference to Emmet in a letter which the poet wrote to John King, Esq., dated September 28th, 1803.

Archbald, Pa., U.S.A.

P. H. PHILBIN.

WILLIAM CARLETON completed just before his death a novel entitled "Anne Cosgrave." "This book has all his well-known characteristics," says one who read it in MS. "The characters are firmly drawn, and the main outline of the story is powerful. The scenes of Ulster life are put down by a man who knew exactly what its conditions and people were, and the book, like all Carleton's work, is eminently readable." Was it ever published?

A.A.C.

Belfast.

***I found amongst the O'Donoghue papers a few frayed foolscap pages of the MS. in Carleton's handwriting, and I always understood that there was a type-script copy in existence. The "Life" tells us that Messrs. Downey "will issue the novel shortly"; and before the war I read an announcement in the press that "It will be published by Mr. Fisher Unwin during the coming season." But neither of these plans materialized, and the work never appeared in its entirety. But Mr. Alfred Perceval Graves, who owns the type-script copy, published a chapter from it in "Blackwood's Magazine" many years ago and republished it in "Humours of Irish Life" in Every Irishman's Library (Talbot Press) of which he is general editor.

MILTON'S "COMUS" (Vol. XI., p. 86). In regard to the privately printed Dublin edition of Milton's "Comus," I fear Mr. Lyster has been misled somewhat. As far as I have gone through various "Grattanianas," this Epilogue by Henry Grattan was not printed separately, but was included in Mr. R. Power's privately-printed "History of the Kilkenny Theatre" (1825). The performance of Milton's "Comus" took place at Marley (La Touche's seat near Rathfarnham) in 1778, on which occasion the Prologue was written by Samuel Whyte and the Epilogue by Grattan. This Epilogue was spoken by Miss Elizabeth La Touche, who married Robert, Earl of Lanesborough, on January 5th, 1781. W.H.G.F.

NOVELISTS' NAMES WANTED.—I have recently been reading with much interest a novel in two volumes, entitled "The Life of a Collegian," published by C. J. Skeet, London, 1853, the scene of which is mainly T. C. D. and Galway City. No intimation is anywhere given of the writer's name. Would it be possible to discover it now? It contains an advertisement of "The Rebels of Glenfawn: A Tale of Ireland's Troubles in 1798," 3 vols., published by Shoberl, London. Could anyone locate this for me or say who wrote it? LECTOR.

I recently acquired a 12mo. book (T.L. + 157pp. + blank page) entitled: "The Legend Of Mirlena; Or, The Priest of Ashinroe." The printer's name is not given but the work was published at "London: For Geo. Corvie and Co., 31, Poultry; and John Cumming, Dublin, 1823." The book belonged at one time to John Windele, the Cork antiquary. The heroine of the romance was Caroline Fitzgerald and the young priest was Father Vallancey. Is the author's name known?

SEAMUS O'CASAIDE.

I have recently come across "MacDermot, or the Irish Chieftain. A Romance by John Agg. 2nd Ed., London, 1810. 3 vols. 12mo. Could you or any reader give me any information concerning the author? J.R.B.

***The "Biographical Dictionary of Living Authors" (Lond, 1816) mentions "John Agg, formerly a Linen Draper in the Strand, recently confined in the King's Bench Prison for a libel on Thomas Best, Esqr," and enumerates four other works of fiction in addition to above, and a monthly periodical entitled "Town Talk" begun in 1811.

RABAUDE DE ETIENNE.—Is there any full account of this protestant minister at Nismes prior to the French Revolution. He was a friend of Brissot, the Girondist, and became a fierce revolutionary declaring that "all ancient establishments were a nuisance, and in respect to the people we ought to renew their minds, to change their ideas, their laws, their manners, to change men, things, words, in fine to destroy everything that we may create everything anew." He did much propagandist work about 1790 in Belfast and Dublin, where he was a familiar figure. He was guillotined 7th December, 1793. He is mentioned by Musgrave and Archibald Hamilton Rowan. F.J.B.

SONG WANTED (Vol. XI., p. 137).—Mr. O'Sullivan will find the song in Crofton Croker's "Popular Songs of Ireland" (London, 1839, and 1886), under the title of "The Hermit of Killarney." Croker cautiously states that "the authorship is attributed to the Rt. Hon. George Ogle." The song had appeared originally, with music, in "Exshaw's Magazine," Dublin, for January, 1786, with the title of "Adieu! thou faithless World, words by the R.H.G.O."

W. H. GRATTAN FLOOD.

KICKHAM'S "Sally Cavenagh, or the Untenanted Graves" was first published by Kelly, of Grafton-street, in 1869, it contains an advertisement: "Preparing for Publication, In one Handsome Volume, Poems, Sketches, and Narratives Illustrative of Irish Life, by Charles J. Kickham." Did this volume ever appear, and if so, where?

J.T.B.

A COUNTY DOWN HISTORIAN?—In a paper on the cave rath at Seaforde, Co. Down, read by Sir Samuel Ferguson before the R.I.A. on 22nd April, 1872, he incidentally refers to "James C. Young, Esq., M.D., of Strangford, a gentleman at present engaged in collecting materials for a revised history of his county." Could any reader say if ever these were published, or if not what became of the materials?

DUN.

BOOKS OF IRISH SONGS. (1, The "Irishman" of 26th March, 1864, published from the poet's MS. Mangan's translation of "Ban-Chnoic Eireann O" and stated that the original Irish was to be found in a volume "Irish Songs, with Translations" published at the "Irishman" Office. (2) Timothy Gleeson stated in his biography of Edward Walsh published in the "Poetry and Legendary Ballads of the South of Ireland" (Cork, 1894) that after the poet's death in 1850 his widow brought out a small volume of Irish songs with English translations by Walsh. The book was said to have been published by Bradford, of 44, Patrick Street, Cork. Could any reader give particulars of these two books?

SEAMUS O'CASAIDE.

Cork.

BELFAST PRINTED BOOKS. Having lately acquired some Belfast printed tracts and pamphlets I find amongst them the two following, which, as they are not mentioned by Anderson, you may wish to record. (1) Report of the Down and Connor Diocesan Committee of the Association for discountenancing vice and promoting the knowledge and practice of the Christian religion for the year ending the thirty-first day of July, 1825. Belfast, printed by Joseph Smyth, 34 High Street (Octavo, 16 pages). 1825. (2) Essay on Painting, by Hugh Fraser. Published by M. Jellett, Belfast, and by James Burnside, Capel Street, Dublin. Belfast, Printed by Alexander Mackay, junr., (Octavo, 35 pages), 1825. I should be glad of some information respecting the author of this last.

J.D.N.

***Hugh Fraser, R.H.A., was a native of Dromore, Co. Down, and followed his profession in Belfast. There is an account of him in Strickland's "Dictionary of Irish Artists," which gives the date of the "Essay" as 1830.

FORTHCOMING WORKS.

Mr. John F. Howley, professor of Philosophy in University College, Galway, and librarian there, a frequent contributor to "Studies" and "The Irish Ecclesiastical Record," has a work in preparation with Messrs. Kegan Paul, entitled "Psychology and Mystical Experience," containing a series of studies in the psychic phenomena of spiritual life.

***Major-General Sir Charles Callwell, K.C.B., a distinguished Antrim man with the blood of the Martins of Ross in him, has written the Life of his old comrade in arms, Sir Stanley Maude, and Messrs. Constable will publish it shortly.

***Forthcoming publications from the Oxford University Press include Volumes III. and IV. of "Ireland under the Normans, 1216-1333," by G. H. Orpen, completing the author's detailed study of the Anglo-Norman period of Irish history. The third volume deals with the chief governors during the reign of Henry III., and the concluding volume with those from 1272 to 1333.

***A collection of sketches and studies by E. OE. Somerville and Martin Ross, entitled "Stray-Aways," will be published during the autumn by Messrs. Longmans. The volume, which includes thirty-four illustrations by Miss Somerville, contains sidelights on various phases of Irish life and manners, extending from reviews of the memoirs of Sir Jonah Barrington and the writings of Miss Edgeworth, Carleton and Griffin, to personal recollections of the joint authors; also two Irish stories, hitherto unpublished, by "Martin Ross."

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